corruption in the Passport Office. The Minister has taken a year to detect the mistake or the correctness of the answer. So, you can imagine what is happening in the Passport Office. Since, August, 1994, we have had four successive sessions and the Minister is coming now with a statement to correct it.

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Madam, I had given a written answer to the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 422 on 24.8.94 raised by Shri Pramod Mahajan and Shri Viren J. Shah relating to corruption in the Passport Office.

I have since noticed that there has been an inaccuracy in answering one of the supplementaries to the question put by them... (*Interruptions*)... One second, let me complete it... (*Interruptions*)...

I hereby place on the Table of the House a copy of my statement revising the answer to the supplementary to question No. 422.

While putting a supplementary relating to Starred Question No. 422, Shri Viren J. Shah referred to one Shri Balbir Singh who was involved in cheating people by getting forged passports issued to them. I referred to the case of another Balbir Singh who was an employee of the Passport Office and against whom a CBI enquiry was conducted. The omission that occurred in my reply was that while the person who was the subject matter of the CBI investigation was actually Shri Balbir Singh Gupta, Superintendent in the Regional Passport Office, Chandigarh, the person referred to as "Balbir Singh" by Shri Viren J. Shah was a different person who was allegedly involved in some cases in getting forged passports. In May, 1994, the Regional Passport Office, Chandigarh, was raided by the CBI. Raids were also conducted at the residences of Shri N. Guru, then acting Regional Passport Officer and Shri Balbir Singh Gupta, Superintendent. Both these cases are under investigation by the CBI and their final report is awaited. As the CBI investigation against Shri Balbir Singh Gupta, an official of the RPO Chandigarh, was in progress around the same time, the question of another Balbir Singh was put to me. Shri Balbir Singh, referred to by the hon. Member was thought to be the person against whom the CBI investigations were in progress. Accordingly, in reply to the supplementary, I stated that an enquiry against Shri Balbir Singh was in progress and as soon as it was over, I would revert to the House with a report. It is relevant to mention that the Ministry is not in a position to take action against the non-official who was referred to by Shri Viren J. Shah. Action against him can be proceeded only in a court of law. Accordingly, the case against Shri Balbir Singh Mann, for his alleged involvement in cheating and fraud cases regarding issue of passports will have to be taken to a court of law. The position has also been clarified through my reply to Unstarred Question No. 1130 dated 14.12.94.

उपसभापति : वह नाम क कारण हुआ, दो-दो नाम हो जाते हैं न ।

SHRI MD. SALIM: Madam, if the Minister takes nine months, time for revising his answer, how long will it take for him to eradicate corruption? That is my point... (*Interruptions*)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Report and Accounts (1993-94) of National Buildings Construction Corporation New Delhi and related Papers

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): Madam, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

I (i) Thirty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, together with the Auditors' report on the Account and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

II. Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (I) above. (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—7770/95)

I. Report and Accounts (1993-94) of Central Wakf Council New Delhi and related papers.

II. Report (1992) on the Protection of Civil Rights Act 1955 and relalated papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MATANG SINH): Madam on behalf of SHRI SITARAM KESRI, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of section 8A of the Wakf Act, 1954:—

I (i) Annual Report of the Central Wakf Council, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94.

(ii) Annual Accounts of the Central Wakf Council, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, and the Audit Report thereon.

(iii) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.

Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—7815/95)

II. also a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) Thirteenth Annual Report on the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 for the year 1992, under sub-section (4) of section 15-A of the said Act.

(ii) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) above. (Placed in Library *See* No. LT-7814/95)

Notifications of the Ministry of Labour

SHRI MATANG SINH: Madam, on behalf of SHRI P. A. SANGMA I lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Labour (D.G.E. & T.) Notification S.O. No. 239(E), dated the 23rd March, 1995, notifying the Reconstitution of the Central Apprenticeship Council, under sub-section (3) of section 37 of the Apprentices Act, 1961,

and also a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Labour (D.G.E. & T.) Notification S.O. No. 433(E), dated the 10th May, 1995, publishing the corrigendum to the Notification S.O. No. 239 (E), dated the 23rd March, 1995.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-7890/95]